

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/650,204

Applicant(s)

KIA ET AL.

Examiner

William T. Leader

Art Unit

1742

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the interviews conducted on May 16, 2006 and May 23, 1006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-9.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some\*   c) ☐ None   of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 5/16/06; 5/23/06 .
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with George Grove on May 23, 2006.

#### **In the Claims:**

Claim 1 has been canceled.

Claim 2, line 1: "1" has been changed to --9--; "aluminum article is a" has been deleted.

Claim 2, line 2: "sheet metal" has been deleted; -- is -- has been inserted after "panel"

Claim 3, line 1: "1" has been changed to --9--; "aluminum article is a" has been deleted.

Claim 3, line 2: "sheet metal" has been deleted; -- is -- has been inserted after "panel"

Claim 4, line 1: "1" has been changed to --9--; "aluminum article is a" has been deleted.

Claim 4, line 2: "sheet metal" has been deleted; -- is -- has been inserted after "panel"

Claim 5, line 1: "1" has been changed to --9--; "aluminum article is a" has been deleted.

Claim 5, line 2: "sheet metal" has been deleted; -- is -- has been inserted after "panel"

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Claim 6 has been amended as follows:

6. (Currently Amended) A method of making an external automotive vehicular aluminum alloy article having a colored anodized surface in which the color is stabilized against degradation by ultraviolet radiation, said method comprising:

anodizing said surface of said article in an aqueous sulfuric acid bath to form a colorable anodized layer on said surface, said layer being characterized by porous crystalline columns of aluminum oxide;

electrolytically depositing metal particles in the pores of said anodized layer for coloring said layer; and before said colored layer is exposed to color-degrading ultraviolet radiation,

heating said colored layer at a temperature above 300°F for a period sufficient to stabilize said color layer against said radiation; and, thereafter,

incorporating said article into an automotive vehicle body where said colored layer will be exposed to ultraviolet radiation.

Claim 9 has been amended as follows:

9. (Currently Amended) A method of making an exterior automotive vehicular aluminum alloy sheet metal body panel having a colored anodized surface in which the color is stabilized against degradation by ultraviolet radiation, said method comprising:

forming said body panel from an aluminum alloy sheet material chosen for the forming of said panel;

anodizing said surface of said formed panel in an aqueous sulfuric acid bath to form a

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colorable anodized layer on said surface, said layer being characterized by porous crystalline columns of aluminum oxide and having a thickness of 15 micrometers or greater;

electrolytically depositing metal particles in the pores of said anodized layer for coloring said layer; and before said colored layer is exposed to color-degrading ultraviolet radiation,

heating said colored layer at a temperature above 300°F for a period sufficient to stabilize said color layer against said radiation; and, thereafter,

incorporating said body panel into an automotive vehicle body where said colored layer will be exposed to ultraviolet radiation.

#### COMMENTS

These changes have been made to more particularly recite applicant's invention and incorporate the amendments set forth in the informal fax transmitted by George Grove on May 16, 2006. Basis for the amendments is found, for example, in paragraph [0004] where use of aluminum panels in automotive vehicles which are exposed to ultraviolet radiation is described. The first lines of claims 6 and 9 have been amended to recite an "external automotive vehicular" article to be consistent with the additional limitation ("incorporating said article into an automotive vehicle body where said article will be exposed to ultraviolet radiation") set forth by Mr. Groove in the fax. Claim 1 has been canceled as reciting essentially the same subject matter as claim 6 but without positively reciting the steps of anodizing and electrolytically depositing metal particles for coloring the anodized layer. Dependent claims 2-5 have been amended to depend from claim 9. This examiner's amendment and the interview summary records are

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considered to constitute a complete summary of the interviews conducted on May 16, 2006 and May 23, 2006. It is not deemed necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interviews.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William T. Leader whose telephone number is 571-272-1245. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Thursdays and alternate Fridays, 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Roy King, can be reached on 571-272-1244. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

WL  
William Leader  
May 25, 2006

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